Q1. Have you hunted waterfowl (ducks, geese and/or coots) in Indiana during the past 5 years?

1947 of 2004 respondents (97.16%) have hunted waterfowl in Indiana in the past five years.

SEPTEMBER TEAL SEASON

Q2. Did you spend one or more days hunting for teal during the Indiana 2004 teal season (September 1-9)?

594 respondents (30.5%) reported hunting teal during the early season. Six of those hunting teal (1.0%) did not hunt ducks during the regular season.

Q3. How many teal did you harvest during the Indiana 2004 September teal season?

594 respondents harvested 1351 teal during the September teal season (2.26 teal/hunter).

Q4. Which one of the following criteria do you consider most important in setting the Indiana early teal season?

Set season to hunt maximum number of weekends	Open season on Sept. 1
Hunt during peak teal migration	Hunt on Labor Day weekend
Overlap with early Canada goose season	

61.2% of respondents reported that hunting during peak teal migration is the most important criterion for setting the September season. Having the teal season overlap with early Canada goose season was a distant second with 21.4%.

REGULAR DUCK SEASON (not including early teal season)

Q5. Have you hunted ducks and/or coots in Indiana during the last five years?

1874 (93.5%) respondents indicated that they hunted ducks during the regular season.

Q6. In which Indiana duck zone do you do most of your duck hunting during the REGULAR season? (Check only one.)

51.9% of Indiana duck hunters primarily hunt the North zone, 39.1% the South zone, and 9.0% the Ohio River zone.

07. How many days did you hunt during the REGULAR season in each of the zones in 2004-05?

North Zone:

The average hunter in Indiana spent 6.7 days hunting ducks in the North zone. The average respondent that hunted primarily in the North zone spent 12.3 days hunting ducks in the North zone.

South Zone:

The average hunter in Indiana spent 4.8 days hunting ducks in the South zone. The average respondent that hunted primarily in the South zone spent 10.5 days hunting ducks in the South zone.

Ohio River Zone:

The average hunter in Indiana spent 1.3 days hunting ducks in the Ohio River zone. The average respondent that hunted primarily in the Ohio River zone spent 11.3 days hunting ducks in the Ohio River zone.

Q8. How many ducks did you harvest during the 2004-05 REGULAR season in each zone?

North Zone:

The average hunter in Indiana harvested 5.8 ducks in the North zone. The average respondent that hunted primarily in the North zone harvested 10.6 ducks in the North zone.

South Zone:

The average hunter in Indiana harvested 4.6 ducks in the South zone. The average respondent that hunted primarily in the South zone harvested 10.1 ducks in the South zone.

Ohio River Zone:

The average hunter in Indiana harvested 1.3 ducks in the Ohio River zone. The average respondent that hunted primarily in the Ohio River zone harvested 11.3 ducks in the Ohio River zone.

Please answer the following questions for the zone in which you primarily hunted <u>ducks</u> during Indiana's 2004-05 hunting season.

Q9. Do you prefer the duck season to be concurrent as much as possible with the goose season?

90.6% of duck hunters responded that they prefer duck season to be as concurrent as possible with goose season. This support held for hunters in all zones.

Q10. On what day do you prefer duck season to open? (Check only one.)

59.4% of those with a preference prefer duck season to open on a Saturday.

The USFWS sets the length of the duck-hunting season each year to one of the following: 60 days, 45 days, or 30 days. Indiana then has the option to either have a continuous season (example 60 straight days) or split the season into 2 segments (example: a 60 day season split into a 2 day season and a 58 day season) in each zone.

Q11. What type of season do you most prefer for each 60, 45, and 30 day hunting seasons?

Duck hunting respondents with a preference prefer a split 60-day season, have no preference for a 45-day season, and a continuous 30-day season. These results hold for hunters in every zone except the Ohio River zone, where they have no preference for a 60-day season, but prefer a 45- or 30-day continuous season.

Q12. If the duck season were to be continuous, which range of dates for opening day would you support for each season length?

Zone	60 day	45 day	30 day
North	1 – 15 November	1 – 15 November	1 – 15 November
South	1 – 15 December ¹	1 – 15 December	16 - 31 December ²
Ohio River	1 – 15 December ³	16 – 31 December	16 – 31 December

Preferences overlap with 16 – 30 November.

Q13. If the duck season were to be split, how would you like the season to be split for each of the season lengths?

Zone	60 day	45 day	30 day	
North	9/51	9/36	2/28	
South	9/51	9/34 1	$2/28^{2}$	
Ohio River	$2/58^{3}$	2/43	2/28	

Preferences overlap with the 14 - 31 day split.

Q14. If the duck season were to be split, which range of dates for the short split (2, 9, 14+ days) would you support for each season length?

² Preferences overlap with 1 - 15 December.

³ Preferences overlap with 16 – 31 December.

² Preferences overlap with the 9 - 21 day split.

 $^{^{3}}$ Preferences overlap with the 9 – 51 day split.

Zone	60 day	45 day	30 day
North	16 – 31 October	16 – 31 October ¹	1 – 15 November ²
South	16 – 31 October ³	16 – 31 October ³	16 – 31 October ³
Ohio River	1 – 15 December ⁴	1 – 15 December ⁵	16 – 31 December ⁶

Preferences overlap with 1 - 15 November.

O15. For a split season what date range for the opening day of the long split would you support?

Zone	60 day	45 day	30 day
North	1 – 15 November	1 – 15 November ¹	1 – 15 November ¹
South	1 – 15 December ²	1 – 15 December	16 – 31 December ³
Ohio River	16 – 31 December ⁴	16 – 31 December ⁵	1 – 15 January ⁶

Preferences overlap with 16 – 30 November.

EARLY CANADA GOOSE SEASON (September 1-15)

Q16. Have you hunted geese during Indiana's EARLY goose season in the last five years?

1504 respondents (75.05%) have hunted Canada geese during the early goose season in the last five years.

Q17. How many days did you hunt geese in the 2004 EARLY season?

The average early-season goose hunter hunted for 3.60 days during the 2004 early Canada goose season.

Q18. How many Canada geese did you harvest during the 2004 EARLY season?

The average early-season goose hunter harvested 4.1 geese during the 2004 early Canada goose season.

REGULAR CANADA GOOSE SEASON

019. Have you hunted Canada geese during Indiana's REGULAR goose season in the last five years?

90.0% of respondents have hunted Canada geese during the regular goose season in the last five years.

Q20. In which Indiana zone do you primarily hunt geese during the REGULAR season?

41.3% of Indiana regular-season goose hunters hunt primarily in the North zone, 11.5% in the SJBP zone, 39.0% in the South zone, and 8.3% in the Ohio River zone.

Q21. How many days did you hunt geese in each of the zones during the 2004-05 REGULAR season?

North Zone:

The average hunter in Indiana spent 4.4 days hunting geese in the North zone. The average respondent that hunted primarily in the North zone spent 9.5 days hunting geese in the North zone.

SJBP Zone:

² Preferences overlap with 16 – 31 October.

³ Preferences overlap with 1 – 15 November. ⁴ Preferences overlap with 16 – 30 November.

⁵ Preferences overlap with 15 - 30 November and 16 - 31 December.

⁶ Preferences overlap with 1 – 15 December and 1 –15 January.

² Preferences overlap with 16 − 31 December. ³ Preferences overlap with 1 − 15 December.

⁴ Preferences overlap with 1 - 15 December and 1 - 15 January.

⁵ Preferences overlap with 1 –15 January.

⁶ Preferences overlap with 16 – 31 December.

The average hunter in Indiana spent 1.4 days hunting geese in the SJBP zone. The average respondent that hunted primarily in the SJBP zone spent 9.2 days hunting geese in the SJBP zone.

South Zone:

The average hunter in Indiana spent 3.9 days hunting geese in the South zone. The average respondent that hunted primarily in the South zone spent 8.8 days hunting geese in the South zone.

Ohio River zone:

The average hunter in Indiana spent 0.9 days hunting geese in the Ohio River zone. The average respondent that hunted primarily in the Ohio River zone spent 7.5 days hunting geese in the Ohio River zone.

Q22. How many Canada geese did you harvest during the REGULAR season in each zone?

North Zone:

The average hunter in Indiana harvested 2.1 geese in the North zone. The average respondent that hunted primarily in the North zone harvested 4.6 geese in the North zone.

SJBP Zone:

The average hunter in Indiana harvested 0.7 geese in the SJBP zone. The average respondent that hunted primarily in the SJBP zone harvested 3.6 geese in the SJBP zone.

South Zone:

The average hunter in Indiana harvested 2.4 geese in the South zone. The average respondent that hunted primarily in the South zone harvested 5.5 geese in the South zone.

Ohio River Zone:

The average hunter in Indiana harvested 0.3 geese in the Ohio River zone. The average respondent that hunted primarily in the Ohio River zone harvested 2.1 geese in the Ohio River zone.

Please answer the following questions for the zone in which you primarily hunted geese during the 2004-05 hunting season.

Q23. What type of season do you most prefer for each 70, 50, and 40 day hunting seasons?

Zone	70 day	50 day	40 day
North	Split	Continuous	Continuous
SJBP	Split	Continuous	Continuous
South	Split	Continuous	Continuous
Ohio River	Continuous	Continuous	Continuous

Q24. If the goose season were to be continuous, which range of dates for opening day would you support for each season length?

Zone	70 day	50 day	40 day
North	16 – 31 October ¹	16 October – 15 November ²	1 – 15 November
SJBP	16 – 31 October ¹	1 – 15 November ³	16 – 30 November ⁴
South	16 – 30 November	1 – 15 December ⁵	1 – 15 December
Ohio River	1 – 15 December	1 – 15 December	1 – 15 December

Preferences overlap with 1 - 15 November.

² No difference between 16 – 31 October and 1 – 15 November.

 $^{^{3}}$ Preferences for 16-31 October, 1-15 November and 16-30 November all overlap.

⁴ Preferences for 1 – 15 November, 16 – 30 November, and 1 – 15 December all overlap.

⁵ Preferences overlap with 16 – 30 November.

Zone	70 day	50 day	40 day	
North	14/56	14/36 1	14/36 ²	
SJBP	14/56 ³	9/41 4	9/31 5	
South	9/61 6	9/41	9/31	
Ohio River	9/61 6	9/41 7	2/38	

Preferences overlap with a 9/41 split.

Q26. If the goose season were to be split, which range of dates for the short split (2, 9, 14+ days) would you support for each season length?

Zone	70 day	50 day	40 day
North	16 – 31 October	16 – 31 October	16 – 31 October
SJBP	16 – 31 October	16 – 31 October	16 – 31 October ¹
South	16 – 31 October	16 – 31 October	16 – 31 October ²
Ohio River	1 – 15 December ³	1 – 15 December	1 – 15 December

Preferences overlap with 1 - 15 November.

Q27. For a split season what date range for opening day of the long split would you support? Please place a number in each open box (1 = strongly support; 2 = support; 3 = do not support; 4 = strongly do not support; 5 = no opinion).

Zone	70 day	50 day	40 day
North	1 – 15 November	1 – 15 November	1 – 15 November ¹
SJBP	1 – 15 November ²	1 – 15 November ¹	1 – 15 November ¹
South	1 – 15 December ¹	1 – 15 December	16 – 31 December
Ohio River	16 – 31 December ³	16 – 31 December ³	16 – 31 December

Preferences overlap with 16 – 30 November.

Q28. Do you prefer the goose season to be concurrent as much as possible with the duck season?

91.8% of goose hunters with an opinion (n = 1529) prefer goose and duck seasons to run as concurrently as possible.

029. On what day do you prefer the regular goose season to open? (Check only one.)

62.3% of goose hunters with an opinion (n = 1155) prefer goose season to open on Saturday.

If Indiana had to reduce harvest of migrant geese, we would have two options to choose from. The first would be to have shorter seasons and the second would be to enter into a quota system (*The season would be closed once the target harvest was reached*).

Q30. During years when migrant goose harvest must be reduced, would you prefer shorter seasons or a quota system?

55.2% of goose hunters with an opinion (n = 1764) would prefer a quota system.

Q31. During years when migrant goose harvest must be reduced, would you prefer a shorter season that starts later (for example, 10 days in December or January) or a longer goose season that starts earlier (for example, 20 days starting in September or October)?

² Preferences overlap with a 9/31 split.

³ Preferences overlap with a 9/61 split.

⁴ Preferences overlap with a 14/36 split.

⁵ Preferences overlap with a 14/26 split.

⁶ Preferences overlap with a 14/56 split.

⁷ Preferences overlap with both the 2/48 and 14/36 splits.

² The percentages that prefer 16-31 October are essentially the same as those that prefer 1-15 December.

³ Preferences overlap with 16 – 30 November.

² Preferences for 16-31 October, 1-15 November and 16 – 30 November all overlap.

 $^{^{3}}$ Preferences overlap with 1 - 15 December.

61.1% of goose hunters with an opinion (n = 1598) would prefer a shorter, later season to a longer, earlier season.

Q32. Would you prefer a shorter regular goose season with a 2-goose daily bag limit, or a longer season with a 1-goose limit?

65.9% of goose hunters with an opinion (n = 1660) would prefer a shorter season with a two-goose limit to a longer season with a one-bird limit.

ALL CANADA GOOSE SEASONS (EARLY AND REGULAR)- If you DID NOT hunt geese go to question 38.

Q33. Of those Canada geese that you shot during the 2004-05 hunting seasons, how many had a leg band or a neck collar?

172 hunters (9.5% of goose hunters) reported shooting 296 banded geese (0.164 banded geese/hunter).

Q34. How many of the Canada goose leg bands or neck collars that you recovered during the 2004-05 did you report?

156 hunters (8.6% overall, or 90.7% of those recovering bands) reported 243 bands (82.1% of bands recovered) to the Bird Banding Laboratory (BBL).

Q35. Have you ever shot a Canada goose with a leg band or neck collar and did NOT report it?

72 hunters (4.0% of goose hunters) reported that they had shot banded geese in the past five years that they had not reported to the BBL.

Q36. Please indicate why you did not report a band or neck collar. (Check all that apply.)

I didn't know who to report the information to.	
I didn't know that I was supposed to report the information.	
I couldn't read the information on the band or collar.	
I thought that if I reported it, this might threaten future hunting opportunities	s.
Other reasons (please specify)	

Of those respondents that had not reported bands, 9 (12.5%) said they didn't know to whom they should report the band; 21 (16.7%) said they didn't know they were supposed to report bands; 17 (23.6%) said they couldn't read the information on the band; 3 (4.2%) said they thought that reporting bands might threaten future hunting opportunities; and 32 (44.4%) listed a different reason for not reporting their bands.

Q37. Prior to this survey, were you aware of the toll-free number (1-800-327-BAND) for reporting band recoveries?

16.2% of respondents said that they were unaware of the 1-800 reporting number before they received this survey.



HUNTING ZONES

Q38. The following map illustrates the current boundary locations for waterfowl hunting zones. In general, how satisfied are you with the current zone boundary locations? (Check one.)

Very satisfied
Satisfied
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
Dissatisfied
Very Dissatisfied

68.3% of respondents reported being either "very satisfied" or "satisfied" with the current waterfowl hunting zones. 21.0% reported

being "neither satisfied nor unsatisfied", and 10.8% reported being either "unsatisfied" or "very unsatisfied". The average hunter in Indiana is satisfied with the current zones (on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being "very satisfied" and 5 being "very unsatisfied," average response = 2).
Q39. If the state chooses to move the current boundaries and the changes include moving a zone a distance greater
than one-half a county in width, then, according to current U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service regulations, we will lose our
option to have three zones with a split option in each zone. With such a change we would have to choose one of the
following options. Please check the option you would most prefer. (Check only one.)
no zones with the option to split the season into two segments.
three zones with no option for a split season in any of the zones.
no zones with the option for three splits (no more than 3 segments)
two zones with the option for 2-way split seasons in one or both zones
four zones with no option for a split season in any of the zones
I prefer no change to the current zones
65.10V of a constant of the state of the sta
65.1% of respondents prefer no change to Indiana's current waterfowl hunting zones. Of those preferring a change in
the zones $(n = 680, 34.9\%)$:
30 (4.4%, 1.5% overall) prefer four zones with no split in any zones;
283 (41.6%, 14.5% overall) prefer two zones, with the 2-way split option in one or both zones;
56 (8.2%, 2.9% overall) prefer no zones, with the option for three splits;
180 (26.5%, 9.2% overall) prefer three zones with no split option; and
131 (19.3%, 6.7% overall) prefer no zones but a 2-split option.
- (- · · · · , · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Q40. If the state were to choose the option of three zones with no splits in any zone, which of the following maps
illustrates the new zone boundary locations you would most prefer? (Circle only one.)

a. <u>Option 1</u>



North Zone

North Zone

US 36

The state of the state of

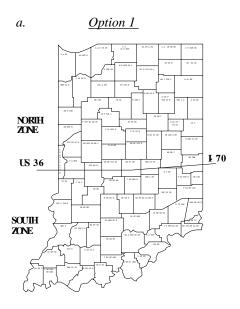
Option 2

b.

North/Central: SR28 from IL/IN border to IN/OH border Central/South: US 50 to SR1 to SR-44 to OH border North/Central: US 36 to SR 41 to US 231 to US 36 to I-465S to I-70 to OH border Central/South: US 50 to SR1 to SR44 to OH border

72.4% of respondents prefer Option 1, and 27.6% prefer Option 2.

Q41. If the state were to choose the option of two zones with the option for a 2-way split in one or both zones, which of the following maps illustrates the new zone boundary locations you would most prefer? (Circle only one.)



NRIH

NRIH

NORIH

NORI

North/South: US36 to SR 41 to US 231 to US 36 to I-465S to I-70 to OH border

North/South: US50 to SR1 to SR44 to OH border

75.8% of respondents prefer Option 1, and 24.2% prefer Option 2.

GENERAL QUESTIONS

Q42 . Rank the following statements from 1 to 5 in the order of importance that best reflect your thoughts toward setting the waterfowl seasons. Circle the number that best describes your thoughts.
Seasons should be set to: (very important=1, not important =5).
12345 Provide consistency of season dates from one year to the next. 12345 Provide the greatest harvest of ducks and geese (big daily bag limit). 12345 Provide the greatest number of hunting days.
For those with an opinion ($n = 1844$), it is most important to set seasons to provide the greatest number of hunting days, rather than provide consistency between years (second place) or provide the greatest harvest (third place).
Q43. If a waterfowl season is split and the second opening could occur on or near a holiday (regardless of the day of the week), what would your preference be? (Check one.)
Open right before the holiday Open on the holiday Open right after the holiday No preference
If the season opener could occur on or near a holiday, of those with a preference ($n = 1248$), 51.7% prefer the season to open right before a holiday, 23.9% prefer the season to open on the holiday, and 24.4% prefer the season to open right after the holiday.
Q44. If the waterfowl season (either the regular season or a split) opened on the same day as the deer firearms season (the first Saturday after Nov. 11), which of the choices below would best reflect your opinion? (Check one.)
Really like it Like it Dislike it Strongly dislike it No opinion
Of those with an opinion ($n = 1562$), if waterfowl season opened on the same day as deer firearms season, 11.7% would really like it, 11.6% would like it, 24.6% would dislike it, and 52.1% would strongly dislike it. The average waterfowl hunter does not want waterfowl season and deer firearms season to open on the same day [scale of 1 (like) to 4 (dislike), average = 3.17, median = 4].
Q45. What is your opinion on the youth only waterfowl hunting weekend? (Check one.)
Strongly support it Support it Do not support it Strongly do not support it No opinion
Those with an opinion ($n = 1948$) strongly support the youth only waterfowl hunting weekend [scale of 1 (support) – 4 (do not support), average = 1.44, median = 1).
Q46. During the 2004-05 waterfowl season did you hunt waterfowl during the special Youth Hunt weekend?
156 respondents (8%) participated in the youth only hunt during 2004-2005.
Q47. During the 2004-05 early and regular waterfowl seasons did you hunt with a youth under 17 years old?
703 respondents (36.1%) hunted with qualified youth (those under age 17).
Q48. On what type of land do you primarily hunt waterfowl? (Check one.)

26.5% of those answering this question hunt waterfowl primarily on public land; 45.0% hunt primarily on private land;

Q49. How satisfied were you with the quality of the hunt on public land?

and 28.4% hunt equally on public and private land.

Of those that reported that they hunted on public land (n = 1320), 6.7% reported that they were very satisfied with hunting on public land, 39.5% reported being satisfied, 24.2% were neither satisfied nor dissatisfied, 16.4% were dissatisfied, and 9.3% were very dissatisfied with waterfowl hunting on public land. The average waterfowl hunter in Indiana is neither satisfied nor dissatisfied with hunting on public land (scale of 1 to 5, average = 2.86, median = 3). Overall, 46.1% were either satisfied or very satisfied, while 25.7% were either dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with public land waterfowling.

Q50. In general, how satisfied are you with waterfowl hunting in Indiana?

Of those with an opinion (n = 1890), 5% reported that they were very satisfied with waterfowl hunting in Indiana, 729 38.6% reported being satisfied, 23.4% were neither satisfied nor dissatisfied, 23.5% were dissatisfied, and 9.5% were very dissatisfied with waterfowl hunting in Indiana. The average hunter is neither satisfied nor dissatisfied with waterfowl hunting in Indiana (scale of 1 to 5, average = 2.94, median = 3). Overall, 43.6% were either satisfied or very satisfied, while 33% were either dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with Indiana waterfowling.

Q51. In urban areas where hunting can not be used to help control nuisance Canada goose populations, would you support the killing of adult geese and transport of goslings to Fish and Wildlife Areas?

Of those with an opinion (n = 1863), 57.6% would support killing adult geese and moving goslings when they cause a nuisance in areas where hunting is not possible, while 42.4% would not support this option.

Q52. How many years have you been hunting waterfowl?

The average Indiana waterfowler has been hunting for 19 years (median = 15 years).

Q53. Who introduced you to waterfowl hunting? (Check one.)

44% of respondents were introduced to waterfowling by a family member, 50.7% by a friend, 1.2% by a business associate, and 4.1% by someone not in those categories (including those that started on their own).

Q54. What county do you live in?

Survey participants live in all 92 of Indiana's counties.

Q55. Are you male or female?

98.6% of respondents are male.

Q56. How old were you on your last birthday?

The average respondent was 43 years old on his/her last birthday (average = 43, minimum = 12, maximum = 82).